

TICKET COMPLETED.

Montague Nominated for Attorney-General.

SETS IT ON THIRD BALLOT.

The Graceful Pledges of His Opponents.

THE PLATFORM ADOPTED.

No Selection of Senators by Party Primaries.

DISCUSSING THE PLAN.

JONES IN ADVOCACY AND DANIEL IN OPPOSITION.

PROCEEDINGS IN DETAIL.

The Senior Senator Endorsed by Resolution—His Eloquent Acknowledgment—Scenes and Incidents—Votes of Thanks—Adjourned.

(Special From a Staff Correspondent.)

ROANOKE, VA., August 12.—The Virginia Democratic convention assembled here, refused to-night by the vote of 89 to 69 to endorse the plan looking to the nomination of United States senators by primaries. This was about the last important act of one of the largest and most representative political conventions in the history of the State, and closed by far the most interesting fight of the busy two days' session. The result of this contest, in which some of the ablest of the party leaders took leading parts, was not surprising, as the subject had only been agitated for a few weeks.

The selection of the party's standard-bearers was completed early in the afternoon, when, after a five-hours' fight, with a field of six entries, Hon. A. J. Montague, of Danville, was nominated for Attorney-General. The recently young lawyer, who had but recently given up the office of District-Attorney, led from the start, and gained steadily until the third ballot, when his nomination was made unanimous and by acclamation before the foot of the roll was reached.

The last hours of the convention were more interesting than the first. There were no set speeches of any considerable length, but an abundant display of oratory in nominating and seconding speeches and in the discussion of the senatorial primary question.

The attendance throughout the greater part of the morning session was quite large, and the vote 13: Attorney-General showed that every one of the 1,548 delegates was present or accounted for. It is the consensus of opinion that this was one of the best conventions ever held in the State. It was composed of the best men from every section of the Commonwealth; its deliberations were mature and sober, and there was very little display of feeling.

The ticket nominated—Tyler, Echols, and Montague—is regarded as one that could not have been surpassed. The reelection of Mr. Elyson as State chairman gives universal satisfaction, and the platform is regarded as an exceptionally strong one. In brief, the work of the convention has been well done, and the party leaders and delegates return to their homes satisfied that what was done in Roanoke will receive the hearty endorsement of the people at the polls in November. All of the contests were conducted upon such a friendly plane that there is not left one pang of bitterness. The body adjourned just before 9 o'clock to-night, and most of the visitors left for their homes before midnight. Most of the delegates from the Richmond section left on the Norfolk and Western special at 6:30 o'clock, and the remainder on the 10:10 train to-night. Hon. J. Taylor Elyson left with the latter party. Major Tyler remains over here until to-morrow. He has been receiving congratulations all day. The people of Roanoke entertained the convention most hospitably, and all go away praising the noble citizens of the Magic City of the Southwest.

PROCEEDINGS IN DETAIL.

Montague, of Danville, Nominated for Attorney-General.

Although the most intense interest was felt in the outcome of the contest for Attorney-General, the convention was rather slow settling down to business to-day. The delegates had been up late, many of them engaged in conferences for an hour or two after the convention adjournment at 2:30 o'clock, and did not feel like getting to work early. The Academy was but partially filled when Chairman Saunders called for order at 9:30 o'clock. The excellent Roanoke Machine Works Band regaled the assembling crowd with bright music. The heat to-day was even greater than yesterday, and the atmosphere in the hall, which soon became densely crowded, except the far-off upper gallery, was very close. Half the delegates were in their shirtsleeves, and more than a thousand fans and hats were kept in constant motion to make a breeze. There were a few ladies present, most of these standing in chairs at the back of the stage.

As soon as Chairman Saunders called the convention to order and declared it ready for business, Mr. William M. Perkins, of Pulaski, sought recognition and read a resolution which he desired to offer paying an eulogy to Senator Daniel and heartily endorsing his course. Mr. Perkins struck a popular chord with the audience, but it was explained that the report of the Committee on Resolutions would make a recommendation along this line, and the matter was not pressed further at this stage. In the nomination of candidates for Attorney-General the convention was

tory that preceded the selection of Mr. Echols for Lieutenant-Governor last night. There were six candidates, and two or three speeches were made in behalf of each. In anticipation of this flood of eloquence, the convention, which had been open since 10 o'clock, to long discourses, adopted a resolution limiting the nominating speeches to ten minutes, and the seconding ones to half that length. Mr. Perkins' resolution of note that two of the men who spoke fell considerably below the limit.

NOMINATING SPEECHES.

The nominating speeches attracted more than ordinary attention, because of the men who made them. Three congressmen and one or two others of the best orators in the State participated in the feature of the day.

The name of Judge William H. Mann, of Nottoway, was presented by Senator Flood, of Appomattox, who has so brilliantly managed his canvass. Hon. A. J. Montague, of Danville, the brilliant young congressman from the Fifth District, who is always heard with pleasure by the Virginia Democrats. The claims of Lloyd T. Smith, of Northumberland, were ably presented by Congressman William A. Jones, of the First District.

The merits of gallant Frank Lassiter, of Petersburg, were truly portrayed by State-Senator William B. McIlwaine, of the Cocke County. William R. Alexander, of Winchester, had an earnest advocate in Windham Liggett, of his home town, who took the place of Richard E. Byrd, and Hon. Henry R. Pollard, of Richmond, could not have had his name presented in a more admirable manner than was done by Captain John Lamb, the eloquent congressman from the Third District.

The speeches were all good, and along the usual line of eulogistic biographies and praise for public services. Among the features of the speeches were the warmth and earnestness with which Mr. Swanson emphasized Mr. Montague's devotion to the cause of free silver, and Mr. McIlwaine's strong plea for Major Lassiter, who surrendered the office of District-Attorney rather than yield to the demand of the Cleveland administration that he desert from active participation in party politics. Major Lassiter has been chairman of the Fourth District for several years and allowed himself to be removed from office rather than to work for his party. Mr. Liggett's was the shortest nominating speech made.

SECONDING SPEECHES.

The nomination of Major Lassiter was seconded by Mr. Brown, of Rockbridge, and A. A. Campbell, of Wythe; that of Montague by Hon. R. Walton Moore, of Fairfax, in a brilliant two-minute speech, and A. W. Price, of Bristol, who crossed the Atlantic, and the Irish wit and the recall of a clever original poem, of which his favorite was the theme; that of Lloyd Smith by Hon. W. A. Anderson, of Rockbridge; that of Mr. Alexander by R. W. Winburn, of Buena Vista, and Captain R. S. Parks, of Page; that of Judge Mann by ex-Attorney-General Rufus A. Ayers. One of the most unique seconding speeches was that of Mr. Dodson, of Buchanan, who thus pleasantly dubbed "Jumbo." Mr. Dodson was an enthusiastic Lassiter man, and pointedly urged his nomination. He is a typical Southerner, about the size of Captain Billy Cullingsworth, and has a tremendous voice, that could hardly be drowned by the whistle of a locomotive. He put the convention in a perfect uproar.

The roll-call of the first ballot began about 11:30 o'clock, and the nomination of Montague was accomplished just before 3 o'clock. As the roll-call proceeded it was very evident that the fight was between Montague and Lassiter. Each time a vote was recorded for these candidates their adherents broke into frantic demonstrations. When the county of Henrico was reached, Chairman Waddell cast twenty-one votes for Pollard and two for Mann. By some mistake the number of votes for Montague on the printed roll to the credit of Henrico was only twenty-two, and the clerk demurred at recording the twenty-three votes cast. Mr. Waddell produced his certificate, and from the time the election, and upon motion it was agreed to let the county cast the twenty-three votes to which it was entitled.

THE FIRST BALLOT.

There were comparatively few changes made on this ballot, which resulted as follows: Montague..... 355 Lassiter..... 355 Mann..... 255 Alexander..... 255 Smith..... 255 Pollard..... 255 The cities and counties in the Third District voted as follows: Richmond-Montague, 30; Lassiter, 13; Alexander, 1; Mann, 5; Smith, 2; Pollard, 27. Manchester-Montague, 2; Lassiter, 4; Pollard, 23. Chesterfield-Montague, 3; Lassiter, 11; Mann, 1; Pollard, 4. Henrico-Mann, 2; Pollard, 21. Hanover-Lassiter, 3; Mann, 11; 2; Pollard, 10-12. Goodland-Lassiter, 6; Pollard, 1. King William-Montague, 2; Pollard, 4. New Kent-Montague, 4.

The announcement of the result of this ballot was received with great enthusiasm by the friends of Mr. Montague, whose lead was plainly indicative of approval. The second ballot was at once proceeded with, and with Pollard out of the race many changes were made, all in the direction of Montague and Lassiter. The enthusiastic delegates from the Fifth District, noting each change for Montague with loud and prolonged cheers. Richmond went almost solid for this candidate, and the Henrico vote was between Lassiter and Montague. Mr. Mann, of Manchester, favored Lassiter, and when the roll-call was ended the revision began, and for nearly two hours the proceedings were delayed by disorder. The chairman wrestled manfully with the conditions, but it was impossible to hear the votes recorded or to recognize those entitled to be heard from those who talked for the sake of talking. These were the conditions when the canvass on behalf of the two favorite candidates were hard at work, and the result of their efforts was apparent. The Mann supporters in the Fourth District changed over to Lassiter. For twenty years the Democrats of that section had not been represented in the Legislature. Now, however, the Southside of Virginia was one of the strongest of the strongholds of Democracy in the State. "No one," said a delegate from Jack Mountain upon his victory more heartily than I," he said, "and no one sympathizes with the other fellow pollard to Mr. Lassiter more than I do." Feeling that the convention was in the hands of the Southside, Mr. Saunders as a presiding officer, coupled with great presence of mind, brought about something like order.

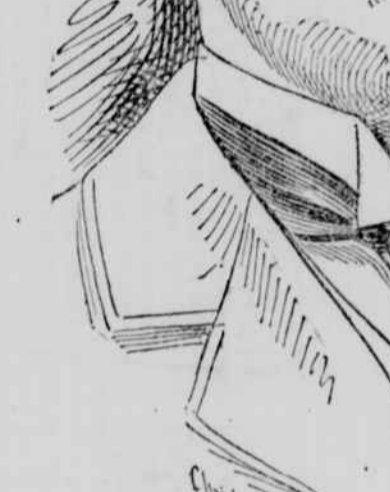
The Montague people were wild with hope and enthusiasm, but the Lassiter men had not lost hope, and kept their forces well in hand. The name of Alexander was dropped, and the only contestants left for the third and decisive ballot were Montague, Lassiter, and Smith. The roll-call proceeded very slowly, amid excitement that ever and anon broke forth in loud applause. Lassiter led for some time on this ballot, and his supporters became buoyant with hope, but when about one third of the counties had been called and several substantial changes made to the "Red Fox of the city of Danville," as one of Montague's supporters called him, his nomination became almost certain. When the roll-call concluded the scores of tally-keepers scattered about the stage saw that the Fifth-District man was within a few votes of victory. There was great suppressed excitement. The calling of the roll a second time for desired changes to be made was begun, but never got through with. The wavering votes gradually drifted to Montague, and when John Button had gotten down to Northumberland, all doubt about the result was removed. Half of the men in the convention were on their feet, waving their hats and cheering wildly.

William H. Mann, of Petersburg, who was Lassiter's assistant as District Attorney, was one of the few who remained seated. He had a very happy speech, and he was one of the four or five others who were enjoying what might be called a McKinley way of prosperity, and he could fully sympathize with all those who were waiting for it. He was bound to approve, he said, whatever a Democratic convention in Virginia might decide upon, and he was here to thank all those who had worked for him.

THE CLOSING SESSION.

Reading the Platform—Resolution Endorsing Daniel Adopted.

There was a slim attendance upon the closing session of the convention. Not more than half the seats in any part of the house or on the stage were occupied. Many delegates had left by the early afternoon trains, and others not feeling any special interest in the platform. It was the last hours of their stay in the city of interest in and around the



HON. A. J. MONTAGUE.

(Our Next Attorney-General.)

torney, and was one of his lieutenants in his fight for this nomination, was on his feet with a view to making the nomination of Montague unanimous, but Senator Flood, who had led the Mann forces, was recognized first, and made the motion.

Mr. Mann and Senator McIlwaine quickly seconded the motion, which, after some slight objection had been overcome, was carried with wild enthusiasm, and as soon as he could be heard, Chairman Saunders announced that Hon. A. J. Montague was nominated for Attorney-General. A committee was appointed to wait on Mr. Montague and the defeated candidates and invite them before the convention.

While this committee was out there led, Senator Daniel thanked the convention very much for the highly complimentary call. It could never, he said, be anything but music to his ears. His name called by such Democrats. He has named called by making a speech at this juncture, promising to add a postscript to the proceedings of the convention later on, for he deemed it the duty of every one to stand back when the standard-bearers of the party came along.

Senator Daniel was introduced a moment later as the chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, and commenced the reading of the platform on the understanding that upon the arrival of Mr. Montague the reading would be suspended.

MR. MONTAGUE'S ACCEPTANCE.

Very soon Mr. Montague made his appearance, and was cordially greeted. He said he desired to express, in the name of the Fifth District, its appreciation of this recognition of its long and faithful service to the Democracy of Virginia. He was profoundly grateful for the honor conferred upon him, and deeply did he appreciate the yeoman service rendered by his friends. "I am not," he said, "in the least in the least, but with all the energy I possess I propose to go where the fight is thickest. If elected, I will discharge the duties of my office without fear or favor or hope of reward."

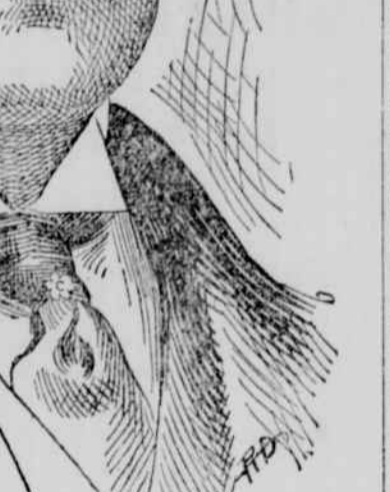
going to obey the Democratic Committee, and go wherever they send me." Mr. Lloyd Smith, in a very happy speech, said he was one of the four or five others who were enjoying what might be called a McKinley way of prosperity, and he could fully sympathize with all those who were waiting for it. He was bound to approve, he said, whatever a Democratic convention in Virginia might decide upon, and he was here to thank all those who had worked for him.

Mr. Pollard was called for, but it was stated that he had left on the noon train for Richmond, and Mr. Alexander was confined to his room at the hotel. The convention took a recess until 4:30 o'clock.

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the life-long friendship which has stood by me in my struggles. The official honors and dignities are not without their sweetness, but the day will come when I will have only to thank the name of William Jennings Bryan. I tell you that William Jennings Bryan was one of the most conspicuous advocates. To you delegates who are here by the grace of God and the grace of your electors, I say you cannot get back and tell them that you have refused to entrust them with this privilege."

Mr. Jones pleaded in the name of a distracted Democratic party, in the name of each individual Democrat, for the adoption of the plan as reported by the committee. (Loud cheers.) The speech of Mr. Jones produced a fine impression, and he was very loudly cheered.

DANIEL IN OPPOSITION.

He Gives His Objections to the Plan.

Senator Daniel, who was the chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, which reported the senatorial primary plan, followed Mr. Jones. The senior Senator, as told in to-day's Dispatch, made an eloquent argument before the committee, in opposition to this proposition. In reply to Mr. Jones' comment, he said: "I am not in this great convention of fellow Democrats to have had no encounter. No man was ever honored by a convention as I have been to-day, but the responsibility of being one of the world's great statesmen, and the rule of my life to avoid no responsibility, and to declare myself, whether it be popular or not. (Loud cheers.) I am not a man who has any abuse to speak of any senator, cut with it like a man. I remember at one time, when my colleague was the subject of public report, he threw down the gauntlet to those who charged him, and the General Assembly of Virginia declared that his remark was unfounded. If there is a man who wishes to be a senator, and to have the world's opinion upon where the allegation rests. Now, gentlemen, I want to lay a proposition before you, and it is this: Every Democratic voter in Virginia now should have, and the State in the Union, an opportunity, and now has an opportunity, to have himself heard, as to who shall be his Senator. Is there any county in the Commonwealth in which the Democratic party is not represented, and in which every opportunity is not afforded to attend his county convention or his county primary? Let him instruct his member of the Legislature to vote for. Has every member of the Legislature of this State been instructed to vote for some one man and voted for another? Who, and where, and when? In this very election, some of your constituents have been asked to vote for their choice, and I need only to look into the faces of this audience to know that no man here has the countenance of guilt, or would betray a public trust.

NOT INFALLIBLE.

Now, as to this primary system: It might be that a primary system might be laid before me which would commend my earnest sympathy and support, but I do not believe that Thomas Jefferson, great as he was, exhausted all the fountain of human wisdom, and as much as I love and reverence and respect the great and noble leader of my party—William Jennings Bryan—I would take issue with him as quick as I could with you. If I saw the truth as I conceive it, for I am a wise man, I am not above it, if he is a wise man, I am not above it. The gentleman who has just spoken (Mr. Jones) assumes that we have a perfect primary system before us. Now, was it from Georgia? (Jones: No.) He says no. (Jones: No.) From Nebraska. I would ask for information. Was it the same perfect primary system that nominated William Jennings Bryan?

AS TO SOME VOTES.

Mr. Jones: Bryan was nominated for Senator. Senator Daniel: I understood my friend to say differently. I may be in error, but I understood my friend, Mr. Jones, to say that he was nominated by a primary in Nebraska. (Loud cheers.) I confess, gentlemen, I have never studied the primary system at all, and my friend says that if we say it is crude and undigested, we ought to have perfected it. Gentlemen, I did not have to sit down in the midnight hour and get all the books I could get, and then consult with the wise men around me, and learn what will be said about it. If my friend will allow me to say a few words, I will say to him in the most unaffected sincerity, with the highest admiration and respect and sincere love for him, as a worthy comrade, and as noble a comrade of our Old Dominion, that I would like to have a perfect primary system, why didn't he get one of those perfect systems that are lying around in South Carolina and in Nebraska and everywhere else, and have an opportunity of selecting one? My friend says that all that is the matter with him is that he is bleeding for the poor people. Gentlemen, all I have got to say for the poor people is that the Democratic party in the United States from Virginia have been all the time and are now just in line with the wisdom of my distinguished friend from the Northern Neck.

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Mr. Jones: I would like to ask the Senator if he had the honor to send two or three aced votes against the resolution to coin silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, he voted with the Senator or with me? And I would like to ask a thousand question. What was he voted a few days ago to put a tax of \$2 a thousand on white men, he voted with the Senator or with me?

Senator Daniel: If you have got a double-barrelled gun, I want to know it. I want my friends to holler for Jones quick, because I am going to say for him that my friend Martin, when he was a very young man in the Senate, he got lost in this question, and he got lost in the same way. My friend Jones was about four years ago, when he was trying to have us all sing the song.

THEIR MORE YEARS OF GROWER.

Then we will be in clover. I want to ask him if that is the clover match he wants to bring us to. I want to say about my friend Martin that he is like Jones. He is a young and progressive Democrat, and he is setting light on fire. As far as the question of the time is concerned, I do not think the whole subject would pay for the scratch of a match to give us a little light on the subject. As far as the question of the time is thinking more about Tom Martin than he is about the bleeding people—perhaps I ought not to say that now.

Mr. Jones: The convention will observe one thing, I know you want to be fair. When Senator Daniel asked me if I could name an instance when Senator Martin had voted different from himself, and from me, not the Democrats of Georgia. I could not. I have no instance, and I don't name them, and the Senator answers me by saying that he voted with the people in Georgia. The question propounded was whether he voted with you and me. Now as to Grover Cleveland—

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cratic people would be confined to one or two local candidates who may not be known, and may have such a reputation that it would be better to have them known beyond the confines of their hills upon which they were born and in which the primary was taken. Now, I ask my friend if that is not his proposition.

Mr. Jones: I will say that my proposition is that after one vote has been taken the vote shall be taken over again if no one of the aspirants gets a majority, and the second primary will be the one in which the highest shall be voted for. But that if you know any better plan than that name it, and we will accept the amendment.

THE PLAN DEFEATED.

No Selection of United States Senators by Party Primaries.

As soon as the applause which marked the close of Major Daniel's speech subsided, Hon. R. Walton Moore was recognized. He is absent of the staunch advocates of the measure. He said that in view of the able presentation of the case on both sides, he was willing, if agreeable to the convention, to submit the question out of order, without further approval.

This course met with the hearty approval of the convention. Several gentlemen tried to speak, but were unable to make themselves heard above the tumult and the calls for a vote. It was the evident intention of these gentlemen to further debate the question, but the attempt was promptly thwarted by the action of the majority, who were determined to form the conclusion. There was a motion to postpone the further consideration of the question, but it was not adopted. The roll call of the counties followed, and the clerk was instructed to proceed with the roll-call. This was usually done and the proposition defeated, the only interruptions being caused by the cheers which greeted the announcement of any considerable batch of votes, either for or against. It was a great surprise to many that the proposition to make the roll-call was not adopted. The clerk went through the roll-call, counting faithfully all through the convention, and he was not prepared at that time to cast the vote of the Richmond delegation. The roll-call of the counties followed, and the clerk was instructed to proceed with the roll-call. This was usually done and the proposition defeated, the only interruptions being caused by the cheers which greeted the announcement of any considerable batch of votes, either for or against. It was a great surprise to many that the proposition to make the roll-call was not adopted. The clerk went through the roll-call, counting faithfully all through the convention, and he was not prepared at that time to cast the vote of the Richmond delegation. The roll-call of the counties followed, and the clerk was instructed to proceed with the roll-call. This was usually done and the proposition defeated, the only interruptions being caused by the cheers which greeted the announcement of any considerable batch of votes, either for or against. It was a great surprise to many that the proposition to make the roll-call was not adopted. The clerk went through the roll-call, counting faithfully all through the convention, and he was not prepared at that time to cast the vote of the Richmond delegation.

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marie	26	3
ndria	2	1
rat	6	12
.....	7	9
ista	1	1
ord	5	1
ord	1	10
ourt	7	14
awick	11	11
anna	6	11
ingham	1	11
bell	21	21
ill	2	13
ette	4	13
ette	7	6
City	2	8
City	2	2
terfield	17	1
.....	10	1